

Governor Brian Schweitzer

Montana
Department of Labor and Industry
Business Standards Division
Building Codes Bureau


**BOILER SAFETY
MEMORANDUM**

RECEIVED

JUL 24 2006

**Risk Management &
Tort Defense Division**

TO: Owners of Steam Heat and Power Boilers

FROM: JR McGimpsey 
Chief Boiler Inspector
Montana

DATE: July 19, 2006

SUBJECT: Internal & External Inspections

All boilers operated in the State of Montana, other than boilers located in private residences and apartment buildings of six (6) families or less, or boilers otherwise exempted from this requirement under MCA 50-74-103, are required to have a safety inspection and Boiler Operating Certificate. (Title 50, Chapter 74, MCA).

As per MCA Title 50, Chapter 74, section 215, process and steam boilers are required to have annual internal and external inspections. This section reads, in part, '(1) The inspector must satisfy himself by a thorough interior and exterior examination that the boilers are well-made and of good and suitable material; that the openings for the passage of water and steam, respectively, and all pipes and tubes exposed to heat are of proper dimensions and free from obstructions; that the flues are circular in shape; that the fire line of the furnace is at least 2 inches below prescribed minimum waterline of the boilers; that the arrangements for delivering the feed water are such that the boilers cannot be injured thereby; and that such boilers and the steam connections may be safely employed without danger to life'.

MCA 50-74-214. Engineer to assist in inspection. It shall be the duty of the engineer operating any boiler or boilers to assist the inspectors in their examination of the same and point out any defects known to him in the boilers or machinery under his charge. Any engineer not complying with this section shall have his license revoked or suspended.

The State of Montana requires that all jurisdictional boilers have an annual external inspection, unless they meet the applicable requirements for a two-year inspection. The Operating Certificate is issued after the external inspection is complete, the required fees paid, and any violations corrected. In addition, Steam Heat and Power boilers require an annual internal inspection, followed by an external inspection. The internal inspection will be billed at the rate of \$75 (as per MCA 50-74-219). There will be no certificate fee billed with the internal inspection, as this will be billed with the external inspection.

IT IS THE ENGINEER/OWNERS RESPONSIBILITY TO CONTACT THEIR CURRENT INSPECTOR and schedule an internal inspection **BEFORE THE START OF THE 2006-2007 HEATING SEASON**. Please have your boiler(s) open, drained and ready at scheduled inspection time. If you are unsure of your inspector, or the phone number, please contact Tara Parry at (406) 841-2044.